# The South Florida Water Management District LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEWS



**April 2010** 



Glenn J. Waldman Governing Board Member



Joe Collins
Governing Board
Member



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## **In Your Region**

## Join in the Conversation at the "Keys-wide Sustainability Café" on April 30

Join with colleagues, friends and neighbors on April 30 for a frank and open conversation to help envision what a sustainable Florida Keys would look like and to identify what achieving Keys-wide sustainability would mean for individuals, families, communities, governments and organizations.

Using the *World Café* innovative and interactive process, the goal is to engage people in conversations about questions that matter. In collaborative conversations, participants co-create the futures they want...rather than settle for the futures they get. It assumes that people already have within them the wisdom and creativity to effectively address their most important challenges and opportunities.

Hosted by Green Living and Energy Education, the South Florida Water Management District and the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority, the "Keys-wide Sustainability Café" event will be held at the Marathon Government Center's EOC Meeting Room. The Café opens at 9 a.m. and will conclude at noon.



The April 30 session is free, but space is limited. Please RSVP to <a href="mailto:info@keysGLEE.com">info@keysGLEE.com</a>. An optional lunch is available for \$12. Following lunch, plan to stay for a series of presentations and discussions on the topic of Greening Government.

#### Glenn Waldman Succeeds Mike Collins on District Governing Board

Governor Charlie Crist appointed Glenn Waldman to the District's Governing Board for a term beginning March 2010 and ending March 2014. As an at-large member, Mr. Waldman represents an area that includes St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. He succeeds Michael Collins who served as a member of the Governing Board for 11 years.

Mr. Waldman, 49, of Weston, is the founder and managing shareholder with Waldman Trigoboff Hildebrandt Marx & Calnan, P.A. As an arbitrator, mediator and commercial litigation attorney, his legal expertise and practice involves environmental, land use, real estate and complex commercial matters. He received his bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Florida.

#### Water Shortage Restrictions Rescinded; Year-Round Measures in Effect

Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Conservation Measures went into effect on March 15, the same day the District rescinded its emergency water shortage restrictions. The year-round measures establish a two-day-a-week irrigation schedule, with a three-day-a-week provision for some counties, including Monroe County.

"Water conservation in our region can no longer be a reaction to short-term adversity," noted Governing Board Chairman Eric Buermann. "Conservation has become a proactive strategy to protect water resources for the long-term benefit of our environment and our communities."

The Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule can be viewed online at <a href="www.sfwmd.gov/2days">www.sfwmd.gov/2days</a>. The rule is part of the District's Comprehensive Water Conservation Program. Visit <a href="www.savewaterfl.com">www.savewaterfl.com</a> for more information.

#### Water CHAMP Program Expanded to Include Large Hotels in the Keys

The District introduced the Water Conservation Hotel and Motel Program (WaterCHAMP) to the Florida Keys last year. Currently, 17 hotels and motels from Key Largo to Key West have enrolled as WaterCHAMP properties totaling 669 rooms. Participating hotels continue to indicate that the program has reduced water use by hundreds of thousands of gallons.



When the program was first introduced as a pilot effort, it was limited to lodging facilities of fewer than 100 rooms. The District has now expanded eligibility to facilities of 100 rooms or larger.

In addition to conserving precious water supplies, this program reduces hotel costs associated with reduced water consumption, laundering costs, labor and linens. It also appeals to an increasingly environmentally aware traveling public who have registered a 98 percent approval rating for participating hotels and motels. As an added benefit, the District provides all materials associated with the program to enrolled WaterCHAMPs free of charge. All lodging facilities in the Florida Keys that are not currently designated as a Florida Green Lodging Property are eligible to participate in this program. Interested hotels and motels can call Tom Genovese at (305) 453-1275 for more information.

### **Out and About**

- Water Resources Advisory Commission
   May 6
   3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach
- SFWMD Governing Board Workshop and Meeting May 12 and 13 Blake Library, Martin County